

REMARKS

Claims 1-6, 13-21, 23-38 and 41-45 are now pending in the application. Claims 1-6, 13-21, 23-38 and 41-45 stand rejected. Claims 7-12, 22, 39 and 40 are cancelled. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

1. Claims 1-6, 13-21, 23-38 and 41-45 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Ball et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 4,012,013). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

I. Regarding Claims 1-6, Claim 1 has been amended, as set forth above, to recite, "An inlet for a jet engine having variable geometry to alter airflow, the inlet comprising: lip structure defining the inlet, the lip structure comprising a wall that includes an inner surface and an outer surface, the outer surface comprising: a first portion; and a second portion that is pivotally coupled to the inner surface at a forward end with a hinge and is separable from the first portion at an aft end; and an actuator structure associated with the outer surface second portion and operable to vary the geometry of the inlet by pivoting the outer surface second portion about the hinge at the forward end such that the aft end separates from the outer surface first portion, moving outwardly and forward from the outer surface first portion, so that the outer surface second portion forms an extension of the inner surface projecting forward of the forward end."

Applicants respectfully submit that in light of the amendments to Claim 1, as set forth above, Claim 1 is distinguishable over Ball et al. Thus, Ball et al. does not anticipate the invention as recited in amended Claim 1. Therefore, Applicants submit that Claim 1 is patentable over Ball et al.

Claims 2-6 depend from amended Claim 1. When the recitations of Claims 2-6 are considered in combination with the recitations of amended Claim 1, Applicants submit that Claims 2-6 are likewise patentable over Ball et al.

II. Regarding Claims 13-21, Claim 13 has been amended, as set forth above, to include limitations similar to those recited in amended Claim 1. Therefore, in accordance with the remarks set forth above with regard to amended Claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that amended Claim 13 is also patentable over Ball et al.

Claims 14-21 depend from amended Claim 13. When the recitations of Claims 14-21 are considered in combination with the recitations of amended Claim 13, Applicants submit that Claims 14-21 are likewise patentable over Ball et al.

III. Regarding Claims 23-30, Claim 23 has been amended, as set forth above, to include limitations similar to those recited in amended Claim 1. Therefore, in accordance with the remarks set forth above with regard to amended Claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that amended Claim 23 is also patentable over Ball et al.

Claims 24-30 depend from amended Claim 23. When the recitations of Claims 24-30 are considered in combination with the recitations of amended Claim 23, Applicants submit that Claims 24-30 are likewise patentable over Ball et al.

IV. Regarding Claims 31-38, Claim 31 has been amended, as set forth above, to include limitations similar to those recited in amended Claim 1. Therefore, in accordance with the remarks set forth above with regard to amended Claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that amended Claim 31 is also patentable over Ball et al.

Claims 32-38 depend from amended Claim 31. When the recitations of Claims 32-38 are considered in combination with the recitations of amended Claim 31, Applicants submit that Claims 32-38 are likewise patentable over Ball et al.

V. Regarding Claims 41-45, Claim 41 has been amended, as set forth above, to include limitations similar to those recited in amended Claim 1. Therefore, in accordance with the remarks set forth above with regard to amended Claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that amended Claim 41 is also patentable over Ball et al.

Claims 42-45 depend from amended Claim 41. When the recitations of Claims 42-45 are considered in combination with the recitations of amended Claim 41, Applicants submit that Claims 42-45 are likewise patentable over Ball et al.

Therefore, for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the §102 rejections of Claims 1-6, 13-21, 23-38 and 41-45 be withdrawn.

2. Claims 1-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Gruensfelder 6,089,505 et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 4,012,013). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants respectfully submit that in light of the amendments to Claim 1, as set forth above, Claim 1 is distinguishable over Gruensfelder et al. Thus, Gruensfelder et al. does not anticipate the invention as recited in amended Claim 1. Therefore, Applicants submit that Claim 1 is patentable over Gruensfelder et al.

Claims 2-6 depend from amended Claim 1. When the recitations of Claims 2-6 are considered in combination with the recitations of amended Claim 1, Applicants submit that Claims 2-6 are likewise patentable over Gruensfelder et al.

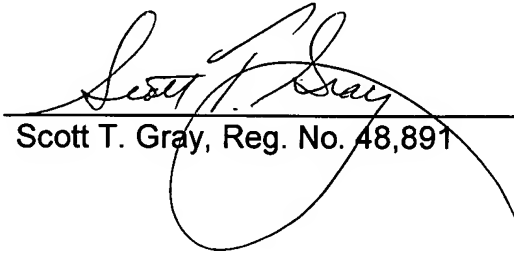
Therefore, for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the §102 rejections of Claims 1-6 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (314) 726-7525.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 
Scott T. Gray, Reg. No. 48,891

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
7700 Bohomme, Suite 400
St. Louis, MO 63105
314-726-7500